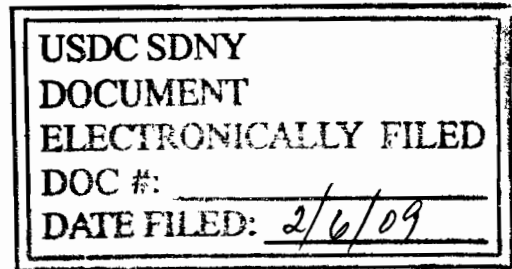


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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
 SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

-----X  
 MICHAEL HEEB, *et al.*,

Plaintiffs,

-against-

THE REPUBLIC OF ARGENTINA,

Defendant.  
 -----X

07 CV 10656 (TPG)

~~PROPOSED~~ ORDER  
AND OPINION

Plaintiffs are the beneficial owners of certain bond indebtedness issued by defendant, the Republic of Argentina. The Republic defaulted on such indebtedness in December 2001 during a profound fiscal crisis. Plaintiffs are suing to recover amounts due to them as a result of the default and have moved for summary judgment.

The motion is granted.

### FACTS

The bond indebtedness at issue is governed by one of four agreements: (1) a Fiscal Agency Agreement dated October 19, 1994 (the "1994 FAA"), (2) a Floating Rate and Bond Exchange Agreement dated December 6, 1992 (the "FRB Agreement"), (3) a Discount Bond and Par Bond Exchange Agreement, dated December 6, 1992 (the "DPB FAA"), or (4) a Fiscal Agency Agreement dated December 10, 1993 (the "1993 FAA"). The 1994 FAA is the same agreement that governed the bond indebtedness on which this court granted summary judgment

to the plaintiffs in Lightwater Corporation Ltd. v. Republic of Argentina, No. 02 Civ. 3804, 2003 WL 1878420 (S.D.N.Y. Apr. 14, 2003). Section 22 of the 1994 FAA, Section 6.07 of the FRB Agreement, Section 16 of the DPB FAA and Section 20 of the 1993 FAA, state that the Republic waives sovereign immunity and consents to jurisdiction in any state or federal court in the borough of Manhattan in the City of New York. All four agreements provide that the Republic's obligations on the bonds are unconditional and that failure to make any payment of principal or interest for 30 days after the applicable payment date constitutes an event of default. A declaration by the Republic of a moratorium on the payment of principal or interest on its public external indebtedness is an event of default as well. Paragraph 12 of the 1994 FAA provides for acceleration of principal if there is a failure to pay interest or a moratorium. If either of these events occurs,

each holder of Securities and such Series  
may by such notice in writing declare the  
principal amount of Securities of such Series  
held by it to be due and payable  
immediately . . . .

The terms and conditions of the bonds issued pursuant to the FRB Agreement and the DPB FAA permit acceleration of principal only by holders of at least 25% in aggregate of the outstanding principal amount of the bonds under each agreement.

On December 24, 2001 the Republic declared a moratorium on payments of principal and interest on the external debt of the Republic. The court refers to its previous opinions for a description of the circumstances of these defaults. Lightwater, 2003 WL 1878420, at \*2; Applestein v. Republic of Argentina, No. 02 Civ. 1773, 2003 WL 1990206, at \*1 (S.D.N.Y. Apr. 29, 2003). In or about November 27, 2007, plaintiffs sent notices to Bankers Trust Company, the Fiscal Agent of the Republic of Argentina, declaring the principal amounts of the debt securities governed by the 1994 FAA and the 1993 FAA to be immediately due and payable.

Further, in or about February 13, 2007, pursuant to Section 10(e) of the Form of Discount Bond and Par Bond, which is annexed as Exhibit 1 to the Collateralized Discount Bond and Par Bond Exchange Agreement, dated as of December 6, 1992 (the “1992 Bond Form”), the Fiscal Agent communicated to the holders of the DPB Bonds that the Fiscal Agent received written communication from the holders of more than 25% of the principal amount outstanding of the DPB Bonds and have declared all of the DPB Bonds to be immediately due and payable.

The bonds that are the subject of this action are listed hereafter. Also listed are the amounts of the beneficial interests owned by each plaintiff.<sup>1</sup>

The following tables contain the necessary identifying information regarding each plaintiff’s beneficial interests in bonds.

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<sup>1</sup> The court notes the distinction between bonds and beneficial interests. In some previous opinions, the court has simply referred to the plaintiffs as owners of “bonds,” when in fact plaintiffs are technically owners of “beneficial interests in bonds.” The Republic actually issues “a bond” to a depository. The depository, in some form, issues “participations” to brokers, who sell “beneficial interests” to purchasers. These beneficial interests are identified by reference to the underlying bond (CUSIP or ISIN number or both; date of issuance and maturity; rate of interest) and the principal amount of the beneficial interest. This distinction is discussed more fully in Million Air Corp. v. Republic of Argentina, No. 04 Civ. 1048, 2005 WL 256126 (S.D.N.Y. Oct. 17, 2005).

Table 1.

<u>Plaintiff Bond Holder or Beneficial Owner:</u>	MICHAEL HEEB
<u>Face Value:</u>	U.S. \$20,000
<u>CUSIP No., ISIN No., BB No.:</u>	ISIN No. US040114AH34
<u>Date Of Issuance:</u>	December 20, 1993
<u>Date Of Maturity:</u>	December 20, 2003
<u>Interest Rate/Payable:</u>	8.375 %
<u>Date Of Purchase:</u>	Before December 31, 2001
<u>Acceleration:</u>	November 27, 2007
<u>Contract Documents:</u> (FAA; Indenture; Offering Prospectus; Certificates, etc.)	Fiscal Agency Agreement, dated as of December 10, 1993 (the "1993 FAA")
Evidence of Ownership Proffered: (Account Statements; Letters; Notarized Statements, etc.)	Account statements from Migros Bank dated as of March 31, 2008, and September 30, 2008

Table 2.

<u>Plaintiff Bond Holder or Beneficial Owner:</u>	ROBERTO CLAUDIO PITRONACI ELLE
<u>Face Value:</u>	U.S. \$15,000
<u>CUSIP No., ISIN No., BB No.:</u>	ISIN No. US040114AR16
<u>Date Of Issuance:</u>	January 30, 1997
<u>Date Of Maturity:</u>	January 30, 2017
<u>Interest Rate/Payable:</u>	11.375 %
<u>Date Of Purchase:</u>	Before December 31, 2001
<u>Acceleration:</u>	November 27, 2007
<u>Contract Documents:</u> (FAA; Indenture; Offering Prospectus; Certificates, etc.)	Fiscal Agency Agreement, dated as of October 19, 1994 (the "1994 FAA")
<u>Evidence of Ownership Proffered:</u> (Account Statements; Letters; Notarized Statements, etc.)	Account statements from Caja de Valores as of March 31, 2008, and September 30, 2008

Table 3.

<u>Plaintiff Bond Holder or Beneficial Owner:</u>	ALBERTO GUILLERMO HILLCOAT and ELENA GRACIELA MARTINEZ
<u>Face Value:</u>	U.S. \$130,000
<u>CUSIP No., ISIN No., BB No.:</u>	ISIN No. US040114AR16
<u>Date Of Issuance:</u>	January 30, 1997
<u>Date Of Maturity:</u>	January 30, 2017
<u>Interest Rate/Payable:</u>	11.375 %
<u>Date Of Purchase:</u>	Before December 31, 2001
<u>Acceleration:</u>	November 27, 2007
<u>Contract Documents:</u> (FAA; Indenture; Offering Prospectus; Certificates, etc.)	Fiscal Agency Agreement, dated as of October 19, 1994 (the "1994 FAA")
<u>Evidence of Ownership Proffered:</u> (Account Statements; Letters; Notarized Statements, etc.)	Certificates as of June 10, 2008, April 17, 2008, and October 30, 2008.

Table 4.

<u>Plaintiff Bond Holder or Beneficial Owner:</u>	ENRIQUE SEBASTIAN PALACIO MINETTI, SEBASTIAN JORGE PALACIO and MARIA ESTHER FERRER
<u>Face Value:</u>	U.S. \$245,000
<u>CUSIP No., ISIN No., BB No.:</u>	ISIN No. US040114AV28
<u>Date Of Issuance:</u>	September 19, 1997
<u>Date Of Maturity:</u>	September 19, 2027
<u>Interest Rate/Payable:</u>	9.750 %
<u>Date Of Purchase:</u>	Between December 2001 and May 2002
<u>Acceleration:</u>	November 27, 2007
<u>Contract Documents:</u> (FAA; Indenture; Offering Prospectus; Certificates, etc.)	Fiscal Agency Agreement, dated as of October 19, 1994 (the "1994 FAA")
Evidence of Ownership Proffered: (Account Statements; Letters; Notarized Statements, etc.)	Account statements from Santander Private Banking as of March 31, 2008, and September 30, 2008; letter from Santander Private Banking dated April 9, 2008

Table 5.

<u>Plaintiff Bond Holder or Beneficial Owner:</u>	ENRIQUE SEBASTIAN PALACIO MINETTI, SEBASTIAN JORGE PALACIO and MARIA ESTHER FERRER
<u>Face Value:</u>	U.S. \$25,000
<u>CUSIP No., ISIN No., BB No.:</u>	ISIN No. US040114BE93
<u>Date Of Issuance:</u>	April 7, 1999
<u>Date Of Maturity:</u>	April 7, 2009
<u>Interest Rate/Payable:</u>	11.750 %
<u>Date Of Purchase:</u>	Between December 2001 and May 2002
<u>Acceleration:</u>	November 27, 2007
<u>Contract Documents:</u> (FAA; Indenture; Offering Prospectus; Certificates, etc.)	Fiscal Agency Agreement, dated as of October 19, 1994 (the "1994 FAA")
<u>Evidence of Ownership Proffered:</u> (Account Statements; Letters; Notarized Statements, etc.)	Account statements from Santander Private Banking as of March 31, 2008, and September 30, 2008; letter from Santander Private Banking dated April 9, 2008



Table 6.

<u>Plaintiff Bond Holder or Beneficial Owner:</u>	ENRIQUE SEBASTIAN PALACIO MINETTI, SEBASTIAN JORGE PALACIO and MARIA ESTHER FERRER
<u>Face Value:</u>	U.S. \$275,000
<u>CUSIP No., ISIN No., BB No.:</u>	ISIN No. US040114AR16
<u>Date Of Issuance:</u>	January 30, 1997
<u>Date Of Maturity:</u>	January 30, 2017
<u>Interest Rate/Payable:</u>	11.375 %
<u>Date Of Purchase:</u>	Between December 2001 and May 2002
<u>Acceleration:</u>	November 27, 2007
<u>Contract Documents:</u> (FAA; Indenture; Offering Prospectus; Certificates, etc.)	Fiscal Agency Agreement, dated as of October 19, 1994 (the "1994 FAA")
Evidence of Ownership Proffered: (Account Statements; Letters; Notarized Statements, etc.)	Account statements from Santander Private Banking as of March 31, 2008, and September 30, 2008; letter from Santander Private Banking dated April 9, 2008

Table 7.

<u>Plaintiff Bond Holder or Beneficial Owner:</u>	ENRIQUE SEBASTIAN PALACIO MINETTI, SEBASTIAN JORGE PALACIO and MARIA ESTHER FERRER
<u>Face Value:</u>	U.S. \$130,000
<u>CUSIP No., ISIN No., BB No.:</u>	ISIN No. XS0043119147
<u>Date Of Issuance:</u>	March 31, 1993
<u>Date Of Maturity:</u>	March 31, 2023
<u>Interest Rate/Payable:</u>	6%
<u>Date Of Purchase:</u>	Between December 2001 and May 2002
<u>Acceleration:</u>	February 13, 2007
<u>Contract Documents:</u> (FAA; Indenture; Offering Prospectus; Certificates, etc.)	Discount Bond and Par Bond Exchange Agreement, dated December 6, 1992 (the "DPB FAA")
<u>Evidence of Ownership Proffered:</u> (Account Statements; Letters; Notarized Statements, etc.)	Account statements from Santander Private Banking as of March 31, 2008, and September 30, 2008; letter from Santander Private Banking dated April 9, 2008

Table 8.

<u>Plaintiff Bond Holder or Beneficial Owner:</u>	AJU S.A.
<u>Face Value:</u>	U.S. \$1,197,000 (remaining value \$670,320)
<u>CUSIP No., ISIN No., BB No.:</u>	ISIN No. XS0043120236
<u>Date Of Issuance:</u>	March 31, 1993
<u>Date Of Maturity:</u>	March 31, 2005
<u>Interest Rate/Payable:</u>	Floating Interest Rate
<u>Date Of Purchase:</u>	June 1 , 2001
<u>Acceleration:</u>	n/a
<u>Contract Documents:</u> (FAA; Indenture; Offering Prospectus; Certificates, etc.)	Floating Rate and Bond Exchange Agreement, dated December 6, 1992 (the "FRB Agreement")
<u>Evidence of Ownership Proffered:</u> (Account Statements; Letters; Notarized Statements, etc.)	Account statements from Caja de Valores dated as of March 31, 2008, and October 31, 2008

Table 9.

<u>Plaintiff Bond Holder or Beneficial Owner:</u>	CASIMIRO KORNAS
<u>Face Value:</u>	U.S. \$169,000
<u>CUSIP No., ISIN No., BB No.:</u>	ISIN No. US040114AR16
<u>Date Of Issuance:</u>	January 30, 1997
<u>Date Of Maturity:</u>	January 30, 2017
<u>Interest Rate/Payable:</u>	11.375 %
<u>Date Of Purchase:</u>	Before December 31, 2001
<u>Acceleration:</u>	November 27, 2007
<u>Contract Documents:</u> (FAA; Indenture; Offering Prospectus; Certificates, etc.)	Fiscal Agency Agreement, dated as of October 19, 1994 (the "1994 FAA")
<u>Evidence of Ownership Proffered:</u> (Account Statements; Letters; Notarized Statements, etc.)	Account statements from Caja de Valores dated as of March 30, 2008, and September 30, 2008

Table 10.

<u>Plaintiff Bond Holder or Beneficial Owner:</u>	MIGUEL ALBERTO BALESTRINI and BIBIANA DELLA FLORA
<u>Face Value:</u>	U.S. \$300,000
<u>CUSIP No., ISIN No., BB No.:</u>	ISIN No. US040114AR16
<u>Date Of Issuance:</u>	January 30, 1997
<u>Date Of Maturity:</u>	January 30, 2017
<u>Interest Rate/Payable:</u>	11.375 %
<u>Date Of Purchase:</u>	July 20, 1999
<u>Acceleration:</u>	November 27, 2007
<u>Contract Documents:</u> (FAA; Indenture; Offering Prospectus; Certificates, etc.)	Fiscal Agency Agreement, dated as of October 19, 1994 (the "1994 FAA")
Evidence of Ownership Proffered: (Account Statements; Letters; Notarized Statements, etc.)	Account statement from Citibank dated as of March 28, 2008, and September 30, 2008

Table 11.

<u>Plaintiff Bond Holder or Beneficial Owner:</u>	CARLOS ALBERTO MELCONIAN
<u>Face Value:</u>	U.S. \$125,000
<u>CUSIP No., ISIN No., BB No.:</u>	ISIN No. US040114AR16
<u>Date Of Issuance:</u>	January 30, 1997
<u>Date Of Maturity:</u>	January 30, 2017
<u>Interest Rate/Payable:</u>	11.375 %
<u>Date Of Purchase:</u>	Before December 31, 2001
<u>Acceleration:</u>	November 27, 2007
<u>Contract Documents:</u> (FAA; Indenture; Offering Prospectus; Certificates, etc.)	Fiscal Agency Agreement, dated as of October 19, 1994 (the "1994 FAA")
Evidence of Ownership Proffered: (Account Statements; Letters; Notarized Statements, etc.)	Account statements from Caja de Valores dated as of March 31, 2008, and September 30, 2008

Table 12.

<u>Plaintiff Bond Holder or Beneficial Owner:</u>	CARLOS ALBERTO MELCONIAN
<u>Face Value:</u>	U.S. \$647,268
<u>CUSIP No., ISIN No., BB No.:</u>	ISIN No. US040114GF14
<u>Date Of Issuance:</u>	June 19, 2001
<u>Date Of Maturity:</u>	December 19, 2008
<u>Interest Rate/Payable:</u>	7 % / 15.5%
<u>Date Of Purchase:</u>	Before December 31, 2001
<u>Acceleration:</u>	November 27, 2007
<u>Contract Documents:</u> (FAA; Indenture; Offering Prospectus; Certificates, etc.)	Fiscal Agency Agreement, dated as of October 19, 1994 (the "1994 FAA")
Evidence of Ownership Proffered: (Account Statements; Letters; Notarized Statements, etc.)	Account statements from Caja de Valores dated as of March 31, 2008, and September 30, 2008

Table 13.

<u>Plaintiff Bond Holder or Beneficial Owner:</u>	LIDIA FLORINDA PIOLI, ANA LIDIA LEIVAS and JUAN DOMINGO BALESTRELLI
<u>Face Value:</u>	U.S. \$140,000
<u>CUSIP No., ISIN No., BB No.:</u>	ISIN No. US040114GF14
<u>Date Of Issuance:</u>	June 19, 2001
<u>Date Of Maturity:</u>	December 19, 2008
<u>Interest Rate/Payable:</u>	7 % / 15.5%
<u>Date Of Purchase:</u>	November 28, 2001
<u>Acceleration:</u>	November 27, 2007
<u>Contract Documents:</u> (FAA; Indenture; Offering Prospectus; Certificates, etc.)	Fiscal Agency Agreement, dated as of October 19, 1994 (the "1994 FAA")
<u>Evidence of Ownership Proffered:</u> (Account Statements; Letters; Notarized Statements, etc.)	Account statements from Caja de Valores dated as of April 18, 2008, and November 3, 2008



## **DISCUSSION**

This Court has already granted summary judgment in other cases to plaintiffs seeking to collect on the Republic's defaulted bonds issued under the 1994 FAA, the 1993 FAA, the FRB Agreement and the DPB FAA. This has occurred in Lightwater, supra, Mazzini v. Republic of Argentina, No. 03 Civ. 8120, 2005 WL 743090 (S.D.N.Y. Mar. 31, 2005), and other cases. Only certain specific issues need to be discussed in connection with the present motion.

### **Standing and Proof of Ownership**

In the two opinions in Fontana v. Republic of Argentina, 415 F.3d 238 (2d Cir. 2005), and Applestein v. Province of Buenos Aires, 415 F.3d 242 (2d Cir. 2005), the Second Circuit has held that an owner of a beneficial interest, such as plaintiffs here, must receive authorization from the registered holder of the bond before it may sue, but that such authorization may be granted subsequent to the filing of a lawsuit. Alternatively, the Republic may waive the authorization requirement.

The Republic has agreed to waive objections based on lack of authorization where the court makes a finding of current ownership. See Transcript, March 28, 2006, Cilli v. Republic of Argentina (04 Civ. 6594).

Here, plaintiffs have adequately demonstrated through their account statements that they owned their beneficial interests as of February, March, April, September, October, and November 2008. There is no evidence of any change of ownership thereafter.

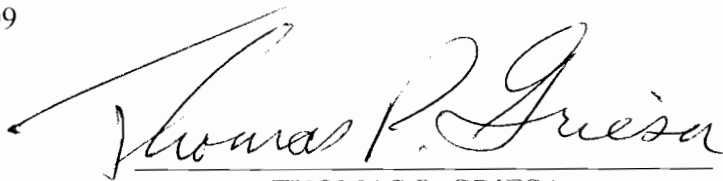
**CONCLUSION**

The motion for summary judgment is granted. Judgment will be entered for the principal amount of the bonds issued under the 1994 FAA, the 1993 FAA, the FRB Agreement and the DPB FAA plus accrued interest.

The parties shall consult with one another concerning the form of the judgment and the amounts of interest that should be awarded in the judgment. If the parties are able to reach agreement, they shall jointly submit an agreed proposed judgment to the Court to be entered on a date agreed to by the parties upon consultation with Chambers. If the parties are unable to reach agreement on those subjects, plaintiff shall submit a proposed judgment to the Court, and the Republic shall submit any objections to the proposed judgment within five business days thereafter. The Court will then resolve any remaining disagreements. Proposed judgments submitted to the Court should include the following language: "It is further ORDERED that, until further notice from the Court, plaintiff(s) must refrain from selling or otherwise transferring their beneficial interest in the bond(s) involved in this action without advising the Court in advance and obtaining permission of the Court."

SO ORDERED.

Dated: New York, New York  
February 6, 2009

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Thomas P. Griesa". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. Below the signature is a horizontal line.

THOMAS P. GRIESA  
U.S.D.J.